

# ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

SIX-TIME CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS 1965 | 1966 | 1968 | 1983 | 1987 | 1996

Wed. | **October 23, 2024** | 7:05 PM | The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Game 68 | AHLTV on FloHockey, The Fan Rochester

## ROCHESTER AMERICANS GAME NOTES

Blue Cross Arena at the Rochester War Memorial | 1 War Memorial Square | Rochester, NY, 14614 | Amerks.com/Media | @AmerksPR



### TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The two youngest head coaches in the American Hockey League lead their respective teams into battle tonight as Michael Leone and the Amerks (1-3-0-0) host Trent Vogelhuber and the reigning North Division champion Cleveland Monsters (2-2-0-0) in the first leg of a home-and-home series tonight at The Blue Cross Arena.

The North Division rivals will meet eight times in the season series with a rematch set for Saturday night in Cleveland when the home-and-home shifts to Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse.

The Monsters and Amerks finished tied in standings points with 88 at the end of last season, though Cleveland edged out Rochester in a tiebreaker to secure the first seed in the division entering playoffs.

### 2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Viktor Neuchev	4	1	3	4	1	0
Isak Rosén	4	1	2	3	1	2
Zach Metsa	4	2	0	2	3	4
Tyson Kozak	4	2	0	2	2	2

### GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Michael Houser	2	1-1-0	39	.907	2.04
Felix Sandström	2	0-2-0	45	.865	3.60

### 2024-25 MONSTERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Luca Del Bel Belluz	4	3	2	5	2	0
Trey Fix-Wolansky	4	2	3	5	3	2
Roman Ahcan	4	0	4	2	2	2

### GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Zach Sawchenko	2	1-6-0	46	.852	4.00
Jet Greaves	1	0-1-0	28	.800	7.01

### 2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

#### Cleveland Monsters vs Rochester Americans

2-2-0-0	Record	1-3-0-0
0-0-0-0	Home Record	0-2-0-0
2-2-0-0	Road Record	1-1-0-0
2-2-0-0	Last 10 Games	1-3-0-0
0-0	Overtime Record	0-0
0-0	Shootout Record	0-0
1-0-0-0	Record When Scoring First	1-3-0-0
17.6% (T-12th)	Power-Play	0.0% (T-31st)
68.2% (30th)	Penalty Kill	88.2% (9th)
Oct. 19 @ CLT (4-2 W)	Last Game	Oct. 19 @ TOR (3-2 L)
Trent Vogelhuber (3rd)	Head Coach	Michael Leone (1st)

### 2023-24 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS CLEVELAND

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 16	L	2-0	27-22	0-5	2-3
Nov. 18	W	7-5	24-31	1-4	1-2
Dec. 20	L	5-3	38-31	1-3	0-3
Jan. 5	W	3-1	26-34	0-3	5-6
Jan. 6	OTL	6-5	34-40	1-3	4-5
Mar. 30	OTW	4-3	36-18	1-4	2-3
Apr. 3	W	6-1	25-27	1-3	3-3
Apr. 19	OTL	3-2	30-38	0-4	3-3

### HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST CLEVELAND

Rochester boasts a 42-21-8-4 record against Cleveland over the last 11 years dating back to the start of the 2011-12 campaign and has earned at least one point in 33 of the last 49 games overall.

The Amerks scored at least one power-play goal in 16 of the 30 games (20-for-101) against Cleveland during **Seth Appert's** tenure as head coach of the club.

**Zach Metsa** (3+4), **Isak Rosen** (3+4), **Viktor Neuchev** (2+5) and **Lukas Rousek** (1+6) all totaled seven points in the season-series with Cleveland in 2023-24.

Amerks third-year forward **Isak Rosén** has recorded one point in 18 of his last 26 games dating back to last season, going only consecutive games without a point just once. He recorded a career-high four points (2+2) to help the Amerks earn a win over Cleveland at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse back on Nov. 18.

**Felix Sandström** shows a 3-0-0 mark in four appearances against Cleveland, winning each of his last three games. **Michael Houser**, who made one appearance with Cleveland during the 2016-17 slate, is 0-2-0 in three appearances.

**Josh Dunne** spent his four years as a pro with Cleveland from 2020-24, tallying 65 points (36+29) in 134 career games.

### LAST TIME OUT

For the second straight game, the Americans jumped out to a multi-goal lead that they were unable to hold as the unbeaten Toronto Marlies rallied back with the final three goals of the contest to claim a 3-2 win - and weekend sweep - in Saturday's rematch at Coca-Cola Coliseum.

Including Saturday's contest, the Amerks have scored first in each of their first four games this season and six of their last seven dating back to the end of the 2023-24 campaign. Rochester has also outshot its opponents in eight straight periods and in three of the first four contests of the season.

Forwards **Josh Dunne** and **Tyson Kozak**, who appeared in his 100th game with Rochester, both netted their second goals of the season in the opening frame. **Mason Jobst**, **Nikita Novikov**, **Ryan Johnson**, and **Anton Wahlberg** all added an assist.

Goaltender **Michael Houser** (1-1-0) made 20 saves in his second appearance of the campaign but took the defeat in the crease.



## MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations  
Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations



# ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

SIX-TIME CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS 1965 | 1966 | 1968 | 1983 | 1987 | 1996

## ERA OF LEO

Rochester's 69th season in the American Hockey League coincides with the first under incoming head coach **Michae Leone**. At age 36, Leone is the second-youngest active head coach in the AHL this season behind Cleveland's Trent Vogelhuber.

Named the 34th head coach in the 68-year history of the franchise, Leone embarks on his AHL head coaching career following two seasons as head coach and general manager of the Green Bay Gamblers (USHL).

Leone amassed a 66-41-10-7 record in his two seasons with Green Bay, leading the Gamblers to back-to-back 30-plus win seasons as well as consecutive playoff appearances for the first time in over a decade. Leone piloted Green Bay's resurgence through the 2022-23 campaign, helping the team finish with the most wins (32) and points (71) since 2016-17.

Before joining the Gamblers, Leone served as an assistant coach for USA Hockey's National Team Development Program from 2019-20 to 2021-22, alternating duties between the U.S National U18 and U17 Teams. While there, he helped implement a successful development model that produced an astounding 41 NHL Draft picks, including 13 future first-round selections.

He also spent time as an assistant coach for the Bowling Green State University men's ice hockey team (2018-19) and for the Quad City Mallards of the ECHL (2017-18).



## CAPTAIN JOBST

The Amerks announced the team's leadership group last week, consisting of team captain **Mason Jobst** while forwards **Brett Murray** and **Josh Dunne** along with defensemen **Ethan Prow** and **Zach Metsa** will serve as alternates.

The 64th captain in franchise history, Jobst returns for his fourth season in Rochester after signing a two-way contract with the Buffalo Sabres. The 30-year-old forward is coming off an MVP year in 2023-24 which saw him produce career-highs in all offensive categories while leading the team in goals (22) and tying for the overall scoring lead with 50 points in 64 games.

A native of Speedway, Indiana, Jobst has totaled 127 points (51+76) over 229 career American Hockey League games with Rochester, San Jose, Bridgeport and Binghamton.



# LEADERSHIP

G R O U P

#81 BRETT MURRAY - ALTERNATE      #22 ZACH METSA - ALTERNATE  
#7 ETHAN PROW - ALTERNATE      #55 JOSH DUNNE - ALTERNATE  
#26 MASON JOBST - CAPTAIN

## HELENIUS HEADLINES FIRST-ROUNDERS

Rochester's 26-man opening night roster featured four different first-round selections, including highly touted forward Konsta Helenius, who the Buffalo Sabres took with their 14th overall pick this past summer.

Helenius, who signed a three-year, entry-level deal with the Sabres in July, made his pro North American debut against Toronto on opening night after playing the last two seasons for Jukurit in Finland's top professional league.

A week after making his AHL debut, Helenius would score his first AHL goal in the second period of Rochester's 4-2 loss to the Toronto Marlies.

Helenius had 36 points (14+22) in 51 games last season, marking the fourth-highest single-season total by an under-18 player in Liiga history, behind current NHL forwards Aleksander Barkov, Mikael Granlund, and Kaapo Kakko.

Helenius' performance earned him a spot on Finland's team at the IIHF World Championship in May, which began the day before his 18th birthday. He recorded one assist and a plus-2 rating in four games as the youngest player in the tournament while playing against a number of NHL players.

## A TALE OF TWO COACHES

Rochester's Michael Leone and Cleveland's Trent Vogelhuber are the AHL's two youngest active head coaches.

Leone, who turns 37 on Nov. 11, was a former teammate of Vogelhuber's when the two played together with the St. Louis Bandits of the North American Hockey League. Together they won the 2006-07 NAHL championship under two-time Stanley Cup-winning head coach Jon Cooper, who five years later would lead the Norfolk Admirals to a Calder Cup championship in 2012.

Vogelhuber, who turned 36 in July, is in his third season as Cleveland's head coach and seventh overall after joining the Monsters coaching staff as an assistant following his retirement in 2017-18.

He spent most of his seven-year playing career in the AHL, totaling 73 points (28+45) in 267 career games with San Antonio, Lake Erie and Springfield.

Leone, meanwhile, played parts of three seasons in the ECHL with Kalamazoo and Toledo, recording 28 points (10+18) in 99 appearances.



## MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations  
Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations

